

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M.D. Vrbnac et al. Attorney Docket No.: WEYE118587/23109A
Application No.: To be Assigned
Filed: January 17, 2002
Title: GRANULAR POLYSACCHARIDE HAVING
ENHANCED SURFACE CHARGE

#4
P. L. Amstutz
5-10-02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

January 17, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

In the Specification:

On page 1, after the ~~title~~, please add:

Cross-Reference to Related Application

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/421,621, filed October 19, 1999, the benefit of the priority of the filing date of which is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

In the Claims:

Please add new Claims 56 and 57 as shown below:

56. (New) A method for forming a polysaccharide particle having a positive surface

charge, comprising:

(a) combining a cationic additive and a slurry of a polysaccharide particle in water at about pH 10; and

(b) adjusting the pH to about pH 7.

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a. 2 §7. (New) A method for forming a polysaccharide particle having a positive surface charge, comprising combining a polysaccharide particle and a cationic additive in water at about pH 7.

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